

## United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO	
09/400,583	09/22/1999	FREDERICK D. BUSCHE	CR9-99-049	3571	
7:	590 10/15/2002				
GREGORY M DOUDNIKOFF			EXAMINER		
3039 CORNW	ORPORATION DEPT T81/062 CORNWALLIS ROAD KEMPER, MELAN		ELANIE A		
RTP, NC 2770	J9		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			3622		
			DATE MAILED: 10/15/2002	DATE MAILED: 10/15/2002	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No. Applicant(s)						
Advisory Action	09/400,583	BUSCHE ET AL.					
, and a final section of the section	Examiner	Art Unit					
	M Kemper	3622	_				
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address							
THE REPLY FILED 16 September 2002 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.							
PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]							
a) The period for reply expiresmonths from the mailing date of the final rejection. b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).  Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).							
1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.							
2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:							
(a) they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);							
(b) they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);							
(c) they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or							
(d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.  NOTE:							
3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s):							
4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).							
5. ☐ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☐ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.							
6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered be raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.	cause it is not directed SOLELY	to issues which wer	e newly				
7. For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendmen explanation of how the new or amended claims w			and an				
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:							
Claim(s) allowed:							
Claim(s) objected to:							
Claim(s) rejected: <u>2-5, 7-13,17-20,22-28</u> .							
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration:							
8. The proposed drawing correction filed on is a) approved or b) disapproved by the Examiner.							
9. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s)( PTO-1449) Paper No(s)							
10. Other:		111/4-					
		M Kemper Primary Examiner Art Unit: 3622					
S Datest and Trademack Office							

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTO-303 (Rev. 04-01) Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: The arguments presented concerning using data mining for forming relationships (customer-product relationships) is not claimed. Data mining algorithms used to generate input data for forming a set of product and customer relationships is not the same as "employing data mining algorithms to generate input data for forming the set of spatial relationships. Considering the language of claim 9, "associating the patterns of customers with the locations of products to form a set of spatial relationships; and employing data mining algorithms to generate input data for forming the set of spatial relationships" indicates that the data mining is used to associate the patterns of customers with the location of products. The association forms a set of spatial relationships. This appeared to be supported by the arguments concerning the customer palths submitted 6/11/02. However, the present arguments are directed to the customer-product relationship integrated with location (spatial) relationship which is not accurately claimed.